



**Mount Royal Faculty Association
Executive Board Meeting - Minutes
August 19, 12:00 – 2:30pm (Via Zoom)**

Members Present:

Anupam Das
Carlton Osakwe
D.A. Dirks
Frank Cotae
Heather McLellan

Irene Shankar
Kirk Niergarth
Lee Easton
Maki Motapanyane
Melanie Peacock
Rafik Kurji

Executive Board Orientation

The Executive Board held an orientation meeting from 12:00 – 1:20 to review Association governance; committees and accountability; recent activities, accomplishments and concerns; and challenges ahead.

Call to Order – Meeting Called to Order at 1:20pm

Motion that the meeting be extended to 3:00pm

Moved: Anupam Das and Seconded: Rafik Kurji

Vote - Carried Unanimously

Approval of Agenda – Approved as amended

Approval of Minutes – June 5, 2020 Executive Board minutes approved as read

Unfinished Business:

1. TRIAD Program: communication from ADC

Motion THAT the Executive Board strike a working group, comprised of two members of the SEC and PDC and a member of the Executive Board, to serve as Chair, which will review and make recommendations to the Executive Board on taking on the TRIAD program.

Moved: Lee Easton and Seconded: Carlton Osakwe

Vote – Carried Unanimously

Business Arising

1. MoU on Calgary Connect Charter School and Department of Education

This MoU has been signed off again with a minor revision requiring the MRFA to be notified of who will be on campus. This MoU facilitates a critical part of the Education program and the Chair of the Education Department was grateful for the supportive approach of the MRFA.

2. MRFA Appointments

- a. Bylaws and Governance Committee

Motion THAT the Executive Board appoint Carlton Osakwe and Irene Shankar to the Bylaws and Governance Committee.

Moved: Lee Easton and Seconded: Carlton Osakwe

Vote – Carried Unanimously

Motion THAT the Executive Board appoint Melanie Peacock to the Bylaws and Governance Committee, as Past President, in an advisory capacity.

Moved: Rafik Kurji and Seconded: Kirk Niergarth

Vote – Carried Unanimously

- b. Member at Large – Other Committees

The Executive Board determined that the Member at Large would not sit on any additional committees as Irene is currently serving as Chair of PSEC and is a member of the Bylaws and Governance Committee and the Faculty Centre Management Committee. The President will be attending several committee meetings on his capacity as ex-officio member of all MRFA committees.

- c. EDI Appointments as per Bylaw 8.5.1
Members of the Executive are to review the current contact list and identify any gaps to Chantelle. This item will be brought back to a subsequent Executive Board meeting if additional appointments are considered appropriate.
- d. Ad hoc Retired Members Committee
Motion THAT the Executive Board appoint Lori Buchart, Kelly Hewson and Gerry Cross to serve on the retired members committee pending confirmation of status as retired faculty per MRU policy.
Moved: Rafik Kurji and Seconded: Frank Cotae
Discussion
Vote – Carried Unanimously
- e. Department Liaison Appointments
Motion THAT the Executive Board appoint Kirk Niergarth to serve as Department Liaison for Humanities.
Moved: Frank Cotae, and Seconded: Carlton Osakwe
Vote – Carried Unanimously

Motion THAT the Executive Board appoint Karen Atkinson-Leadbetter, Cheryl Techentin or Verna Raab to serve as Department Liaison for Psychology, pending confirmation of their acceptance of the position.

Moved: Kirk Niergarth Seconded: Frank Coate
Vote – Carried Unanimously

- f. Remaining Vacant Positions from Spring 2020
A final call for statements of interest has been circulated in the MRFA Bulletin, and appointments will be considered at the next meeting.
 - i. Collective Bargaining Advisory Committee - Contract Member
 - ii. Academic Liaison Committee - Health, Community and Education Representative: 1 position for 2020 -2022.
 - iii. Ad hoc Job Action Finance Committee: 1 position for the remainder of the current round of bargaining.
 - iv. MRFA Contract Representative on the Transportation Advisory Committee: 1 position for 2020 -2022.

- 3. Communications Committee Recommendation Regarding Facebook Page
In a Winter 2020 survey, members of the Facebook page indicated their preference to have the page continue with the same or stricter guidelines for content monitoring. Maintaining the status quo of the page is not an option since the Association has received a legal opinion that the page creates a liability for the Association.

Motion THAT the Executive Board approve the revival of the MRFA Facebook page such that it follows specific guidelines and restrictions on posting and commenting as recommended, and to be further developed, by the Communications Committee.

Moved: Kirk Niergarth and Seconded: Lee Easton
Discussion

Motion to amend: that the page be revived “as a pilot project that would end in December with a report back from the Communications Committee on the workload and personal costs of maintaining the page, the types of posts made and an overall assessment whether the page is functioning as envisioned”.

Moved: Lee Easton and Seconded: D.A. Dirks
Discussion
Friendly amendment – Agreed

Vote – Carried (4 in favour, 2 opposed and 3 abstained)

4. Special Meeting to Elect FEC Chair

a. Voting Provisions – Temporary Bylaw Amendments

-Executive Board Motion to temporarily amend Bylaw article 12.1.3 to allow for post meeting online voting for Committee Chair positions following the Special Meeting during which the All Candidates Forum is to be held.

-Executive Board Motion to temporarily amend Bylaw article 12.1.12 to not permit the appointment of scrutineers for online balloting.

-Executive Board Motion to appoint Derrick Antson as Vote Auditor

Motion THAT the Executive Board approve the above motions as recommendations to the membership to facilitate the election of a Chair of the Faculty Evaluation Committee in an online environment.

Moved: Rafik Kurji and Seconded: D.A. Dirks

Vote – Carried Unanimously

b. Nominations Update

Deferred

Motion that the meeting move in camera at 2:31pm

Moved Heather McLellan and Seconded: Anupam Das

Vote - Carried Unanimously

In Camera Session:

1. Pandemic Response

a. Faculty Centre, Staff working remotely – Staff Recused

Motion that the Faculty Centre remain closed until Jan 2021, unless there is a change in circumstances, and that appropriate staffing measures will be addressed.

Moved: Lee Easton and Seconded: Irene Shankar

Discussion

Vote - Carried

b. COVID MOU

c. Contract Faculty and Unsigned Contracts

2. President's Report

3. Negotiations Report

4. Grievance Report

Motion that the meeting move out of camera at 3:14pm

Moved: Frank Cotae, and Seconded: Carlton Osakwe

Vote – Carried Unanimously

New Business

1. Pandemic Matters:

a. Planning Ahead Team

The Executive Board discussed concerns about a recent administrative communications and the potential benefits of proactive consultation with the Association.

b. Occupational Health and Safety Meetings - Deferred

c. [People Plan](#)-- challenges (faculty out of province, campus access)
Provided for information to the Executive Board

d. Possible Survey

The Association needs to talk to members directly – we need to provide an update addressing member concerns. Deferred to September 4



2. Provincial Initiatives
 - a. Review 2030 - Deferred
 - b. Bill-32 Fair Deal - Deferred
3. MRFA Scheduling Matters
 - a. Date(s) of Exec Planning Sessions - Deferred
 - b. Committee Transition Meeting for 2020 and Ongoing Orientation Planning - Deferred
4. Request from Faculty for MRU to use Zoom - Deferred
5. Faculty Correspondence - Association Statement on Racism and Concern about Spring PD event
The Executive Board needs to discuss this matter in depth and it will be striking a working group comprised of four members of the Board to further consider these concerns and related issues. Deferred to September 4.

Consent Agenda

1. MRFA Committee Minutes - Deferred
 - June 5, 2020 Professional Development Committee Minutes
 - June 8, 2020 Advocacy Committee Meeting Minutes
 - June 8, 2020 Grants Committee Meeting Minutes
 - June 11, 2020 Awards Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion to adjourn at 3:30pm

Moved: D.A. Dirks and Seconded: Irene Shankar

Vote – Carried Unanimously

Next Meeting: September 4, 1:00 – 3:30pm